In 1981

Soybeans or corn?

By JAMES A. SMITH
Extension Agent

The question Appomattox growers need to answer is, "Should I grow soybeans or corn in 1981?" This year the answer is not clear-cut. A rule of thumb is that when the price of a bushel of beans is 2.5 times greater than a bushel of corn–plant beans.

I want to discuss beans in some detail–not because I necessarily feel that they will return the most dollars, but because, if we are going to produce this crop, we must get yields at a competitive level.

Seven years work at Suffolk using six varieties shows full-season beans averaged 43.8 bushels while no-till beans averaged 32.2 bushels.

A 14 bushel yield no-til is considered break-even.

When planting no-til, an 8 to 10 bushel increase can be expected when beans follow barley rather than wheat.

When there are factors that reduce yields, eight bushels + are considered profitable to harvest. A four bushel yield will cover cost of combine and haul to market.'

When soil temperature reaches 60°+, plant soybeans. Do not plant deeper than ¾ to 1 inch.

Proper pH level is extremely important if yields are to be maximized. There's still time to pull soil samples. If pH is low, it will pay to seed treat with moly.

Weed control is another key to higher yields. There is a wide range of herbicides that can be applied in a number of ways. Each producer must work out his combination of chemical, mechanical and cultural controls. Here are some things to consider:

1. Know your weeds and use procedures which are effective against the weeds you have in each field.

2. Study the available herbicides–learn which weeds each controls, the correct stage of growth for applying the herbicide, the possible plant injury and, of course, consider cost.

3. Most failures are the result of using the wrong herbicide, applied at the wrong time or poor job of application.

4. Read the label, follow instructions and precautions carefully.

* * *

Clover mites are invading a lot of homes. They do no damage to home furnishings and do not bite. They migrate into the home in March and April. I prefer stopping them out-of-doors; this can be done by spraying a 5-foot barrier around the house with 25% diazinon using 2 teaspoons per gallon water. In the house, they can be vacuumed–wipe some of the Diazinon on window sills and door stop. You may not want to do the latter if there are small children in the home. Someone has said that a non-chemical control is to wipe the window sill and door stop with a light application of liquid cooking oil.

* * *

There's been some interest in seeding alfalfa no-til. We're still looking at the results–so at this time there. are no firm recommendations. If you would like to give it a try next fall–we'll be glad to give you what information we have on the procedure.

Boy Scout rummage sale slated

The Boy Scouts of Appomattox, Troop 546 have scheduled a rummage sale to be held on Saturday, April 25 at 9:00 a.m.

Two locations have been designated for your convenience; in Appomattox at the parking lot of the Farmers National Bank, Triangle Plaza Shopping Center. In Concord, the sale will be at Big Horn Market.

Boy Scouts will be working at each location. Proceeds from the sale will go toward summer camp expenses.

If anyone has items to donate, please call Pam Harville at 352-5997 or Ernestine Carmody at 352-5566. Your support will be appreciated.

ASCS Today

Crops certified

By TOM CONRAD
Farmers Certify Wheat, Barley Crops - ASCS is currently accepting acreage reports for the 1981 farm program. Since there are no set-aside requirements or normal crop acreage limitations, all farmers who file an accurate acreage report will be eligible for program benefits.

Farmes have until June 1 to report the sizes and intended use of their wheat, barley, oats, and rye. The report should be as accurate as possible. The more accurate the report, the less trouble farmers will have to qualify for deficiency and disaster payments.

ASCS will randomly check farms to verify that acreage reports are accurate and also make aerial photographs available for farmers to identify their fields.

Last year 204 Appomattox County farmers certified their small grains by the deadline.

Farmers who have not certified their fall-seeded program crops are urged to do so as soon as possible. The County ASCS office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

1980 Wool Payments Estimated at $36 Million - Sheep producers will receive about $36 million in federal incentive payments on the wool they sold in 1980, a U. S. Department of Agriculture official said recently. This compares with $32 million paid last year on 1979 marketings.

The current shorn wool support price is $1.23 per pound but the 1980 national average market price for shorn wool was 88.1 cents a pound, a differnece of 34.9 cents.

Dividing the difference (34.9 cents) by the average market price (88.1 cents) results in a 1980 payment rate of 39.6 percent, compared with a payment rate of 33.3 percent in 1979. The payment rate is the amount required to bring the average market price up to the support price.

The wool program encourages the production of higher quality wool because the more producers receive from sales, the more they receive in government incentive payments. Producer payments are determined by multiplying the payment rate (39.6 percent) times the net dollar return received from wool sales.

Producers will receive $1.40 per hundred weight in federal payments for unshorn lambs they sold or slaughtered in 1980. These payments are to compensate growers for wool on live lambs they marketed.

The payment is based on the shorn wool payment rate, the average weight of wool per hundredweight of lambs and the price of lamb's wool relative to the national average price for shorn wool.

Incentive payment checks are prepared by USDA's Kansas City commodity office. When payments are computed, the office withholds 2½ cents a pound from wool payments and 12½ cents per hundredweight from lamb payments. This money later is forwarded to the American Sheep Producers' Council to finance advertising, sales promotion and related market development activities.

These deductions were approved by a 75.3 percent favorable vote by sheep producers voting in an August 1978 referendum.

USDA will not make incentive payments on mohair sold in 1980 because the average market price of $3.50 a pound was above the announced support level of $2.903 a pound.

Help offered here

Job outlook grim

The current job outlook in this area is grim for those individuals without adequate training. This spring the Marketing and Distributive Education Department at Appomattox County High School will be sponsoring two adult classes for individuals who desire training for future job placement or an upgrading of their skills in their present position. The Receptionist class will meet on Tuesday evenings 7:00-9:30 p.m. (April 28-May 19) and the Cashier Checker class will be held Tuesday and Thursday evenings 7:00-9:30 (May 5-28). For more information, please call Bruce Fall or John Moon at 352-5317. Please register in advance because class enrollment will be limited.

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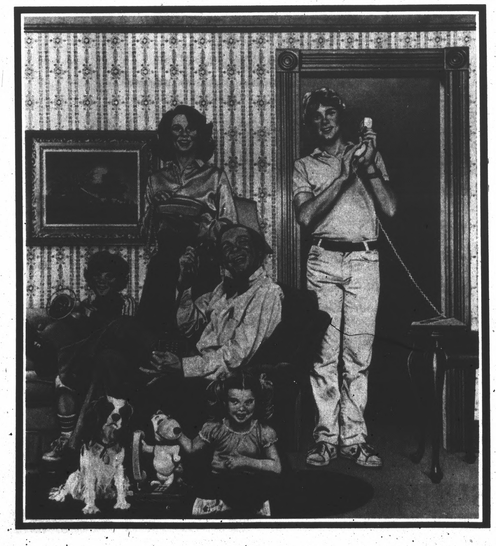

Chestnut Grove news

Recent visitors of Mrs. Alice Senger were Mr. and Mrs. Roy Pope and Sandra of Amelia, Mrs. Elsie Kidd of Farmville, Mrs. Ester Forbes and Mrs. Bob Mann both of Dillwyn.

Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Morris of Appomattox visited Mr. and Mrs. A. N. Morris Saturday night. Stuart Jackson of Richmond was Sunday dinner guest in the Morris Home.

Mrs. K. M. Beasley, Jr., Kathy and Kemper III were Friday visitors of Mrs. Katherine Carson at Spout Spring.

Sunday dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. Joe L. Harris were Mr. and Mrs. Pete Senger of Curdsville and Mr. and Mrs. Russell L. Harris of Appomattox.

Mr. and Mrs. Lightfoot Crews of Portsmouth are visiting Mr. Lewis Morgan at Andersonville enroute to visit their daughter in Decide.

Saturday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. Dale Senger were her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Willie Prator and Lori, all of Crewe.

The Chestnut Grove Homemakers Club met Monday with eleven members. The demonstration on chair bottoming was given by Mrs. W. T. Cook.

Pete Tolbert had back surgery at Lynchburg General Hospital Saturday and is reported doing well.

Mrs. Harry W. McFalls underwent surgery at Southside Community Hospital Monday. We hope for her a speedy recovery.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Henson Morris of Appomattox were Sunday visitors of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Morris and Mrs. Lucy Glover.

BUY - SELL OR TRADE CLASSIFIED ADS GET RESULTS

THE CHICKEN PALACE on Confederate Blvd. held a grand opening on Saturday, April 18 with a record crowd attending all through the day and evening to enjoy "Chicken at its best!" Doug and Lois Barksdale, owners and operators of the new business, their families, and the staff "want to thank everyone for a terrific grand opening and a warm reception. We're looking forward to serving the local area and surrounding communities with food at its best. We feel the opening couldn't have gone better but we know the biggest challenge is ahead of us. We're proud to be a part of Appomattox and we'll strive to maintain a quality product and an establishment of which we and the people can be proud. If we can maintain the high caliber staff that we now have, the Chicken Palace will continue to have good food, good service and an enjoyable atmosphere." Shown, from left to right, Betty Watkins, Donna Allen, Barry Watkins, Lois Barksdale, Doug Barksdale, and Iva Barksdale.

Four new members

Club holds orientation

The Appomattox Junior Woman's Club held an Orientation meeting for its prospective new members on Wednesday, April 15, at the home of Sheila Webb, membership chairman.

New members attending were: Nancy Goodman, Karen Johnson, Nancy Kramer, and Cynthia Thomas.

Various aspects of General Federation and State Federation of Women's Clubs were explained as well as accomplishments of the District and local club. Those assisting in the presentation were: Karen Knapp, president of the club; Linda Jo Mays, junior courtesy chairman for the Alice-Kyle District; Sue Waddell, and Sheila Webb.

The new members will be inducted at the April Club meeting on April 28, at the Triangle Plaza Branch of Farmers National Bank.

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AMS News Notes

PTA attendance up

We were very pleased with the interest shown by the parents attending PTA last Monday. We hope everyone enjoyed the musical presentation and the art show.

Mrs. J. Wilkerson's seventh grade math classes are involved in a special learning experience she has named "MATH MARVELS." "MATH MARVELS, which is actually based on a student team technique developed by Stanford University, was introduced to the class in the format of a television game show. Each week a game topic is selected; a pretest is given in the topic area and short daily review exercises are presented in the topic area. The activities culminate at the end of the week when students play "MATH MARVELS." The game is followed by a post test which Mrs. Wilkerson uses to monitor student progress. The method of student team teaching uses students to teach or coach each other under the teacher's supervision. Ms. Wilkerson feels the method has been very successful. "I've noted there is a considerable improvement in scores between the pretest and post test. This would indicate that the skills covered each week are being learned and reinforced." She continued, "Although each game takes me approximately 4 hours at home to plan and prepare the materials, the students' increased enthusiasm and the fact they are motivated makes it all worthwhile. It's the high light of the week for the students and for myself as well."

Gospel singing planned

Gospel Singing will be held at Bethel Bible Church, Linden Street, Appomattox, on Saturday, April 25 beginning from 7 p.m. until 9:30 p.m. Bethel Bible Church is a non-denominational church with a great love for God.

Our Church will be featuring the Singing Christians, from Evergreen, Va., and God's Children, from Lynchburg. Also featured will be Tommy Shepard, Temple Baptist Church, Lynchburg.

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Home of the Week

Separate Dining Area

ACTIVITY ROOM FEATURED

FEATURE HOMES

© By W. D. FARMER

A large activity room is the feature of this house. The room is highlighted by false beams across the ceiling, brick facing along one entire wall and a central fireplace. Double French doors lead to a sun deck on the rear.

Another feature of this home is that it offers a completely private dining area. This is an asset often lacking in activity room houses.

The kitchen has a step-saving design and has plenty of cabinet and counter space. Location adjacent to the dining area offers quick transfer from the kitchen to the table.

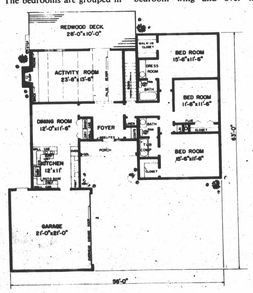
The bedrooms are grouped in a separate wing to divide the home into active and quiet zones.

The master bedroom, on the rear, has a separate dressing room, private bath and a walk-in closet. Each of the other two bedrooms has ample closet space and access to a full bath with a vanity.

The exterior is country-rustic, "L" shape, with gables over the bedroom wing and over the garage.

All W.D. Farmer plans include special construction details for energy efficiency and are guaranteed to meet F.H.A. and V.A. regulations.

The plan is number 775A. It includes a total of 1713 square feet of heated area. For further information on plan 775A, write W.D. Farmer, Residence Designer, Inc., P.O. Box 49463, Atlanta, Ga. 30359.



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